

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 3647

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR (BRUNELLON DUILIO AND CAMUS, JORGE)

SUBJECT: RESIGNATION OF TWO TOP OFFICERS OF PERONIST PARTY

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE JUSTICIALISTA (PERONIST) PARTY PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION YESTERDAY TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATIONS OF THE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, DUILIO BRUNELLO, AND OF ITS SECRETARY GENERAL, JORGE CAMUS. IT HAD BEEN KNOWN FOR SOME TIME THAT THE TWO HAD PRESENTED THEIR RESIGNATIONS--CAMUS FOR THE SECOND TIME. NORMALLY, A CONGRESS OF THE PERONIST PARTY WOULD HAVE TO BE CALLED IN ORDER TO REPLACE THESE TWO TOP-RANKING PARTY OFFICIALS (THEY RANK ONLY BELOW RAUL LASTIRI AND MRS. PERON HERSELF). SO FAR, HOWEVER, THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT LASTIRI INTENDS TO CONVOKE A PARTY CONGRESS.

2. THE RESIGNATIONS ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTING SINCE THE TWO MEN REPRESENT DIVERGENT TENDENCIES WITHIN THE PERONIST PARTY. BRUNELLO WAS A "DIALOGISTA" WHO WISHED TO PROMOTE CONSENSUS POLITICS AND THE CONTINUED COOPERATION OF THE OTHER POLITICAL SECTORS. CAMUS, ON THE OTHER HAND, REPRESENTED THE MORE ORTHODOX PERONIST TENDENCY. WHILE HE VALUED SOME DIALOGUE WITH THE OTHER PARTIES, HE WAS KEEN ON THE PERONIZATION OF GOVERNMENT. BOTH COINCIDED, HOWEVER, AS STRONG ADVOCATES OF THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE PERONIST PARTY, AND WHATEVER REASONS THE TWO GIVE IN PUBLIC, THERE IS LITTLE QUESTION BUT THAT THEY RESIGNED BECAUSE IT IS CLEAR THAT MRS. PERON AND LOPEZ REGA ARE NOT INTERESTED IN THAT INSTI-
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TUTIONALIZATION. IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION RECENTLY, CAMUS

INDICATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD BEEN ASSURED BY LASTIRI OF HIS AND MRS. PERON'S FULL BACKING IN DEVELOPING A STRONG PARTY ORGANIZATION, HE, CAMUS, HAD HIS DOUBTS ABOUT SUCH SUPPORT. HE STATED FRANKLY THAT HE FEARED THEY WERE MORE INTERESTED IN CONSOLIDATING THE POSITION OF THE "FAMILY" THEN IN INSTITUTIONALIZING EITHER THE PARTY OR THE GOVERNMENT. IF HE FOUND THIS TO BE THE CASE, HE SAID, HE WOULD AGAIN RESIGN. MONTLLOR

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